FDI in Housing Sector

2597. SHRI KHAN GHUFRAN ZAHIDI: Will Uie Minister of URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have a proposal to allow cent per cent investment by the foreign companies in housing sector ;

(b) if so. the details tliereof;

(c) whetlier Government have received any proposal from the foreign companies in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof.'

THE MINISTER OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA): (a) and (b) A proposal to permit foreign direct investment (FDI) in the housing and construction sector is under consideration of Government. However, no decision has been taken so far.

(c) and (d) The proposals of a few foreign companies were received and they were not granted permission by the Foreign Investment Promotion Board to invest in housing and real estate sector since 100% foreign direct investment (FDI) is not permissible in housing sector.

Employment in Urban Areas of U. P.

†2598. SHRI MANOHAR KANT:' DHYANI : Will the Minister of URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) Tlie number of educated as well as uneducated unemployed persons in the urban areas of Uttar Pradesh during the last tiiree years ;

(b) the measures taken by Government to provide employment during the last three years with plans for the current as well as for the next year; and

(c) the target fixed for providing employment ?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.

ALLEVIATION (SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA): (a) No such data is maintained in this Ministry. Ministry of Labour has also intimated that they do not collect information separately about the number of urban educated unemployed.

(b) Swama Jayanti Shahari Rojgar Yqjiuia (SJSRY) was launched witli effect from 01-12-1997 by the Government on all India basis, including Uttar Pradesh, for the benefit of urban poor. This programme seeks to provide gainful employment to the urban unemployed or under-employed poor through encomaging the setting up of self-employment ventures or provision of wage employment by utilising their labour for construction of socially and economically useful public assets. This programme targets the urban poor living below the poverty line, as defined from time to time. The scheme continues to be implemented in Uttar Pradesh and the rest of tlie country in current year as well as during the next year also.

(c) Under SJSRY, no targets are fixed by the Central Go\cnimcnl The matter pertaining to the targets under the scheme has been left to be decided by the State Governments in conformity with the guidelines of the scheme and result of beneficiary Survey. This has been done to ensure adequate flexibility in the operation of the scheme.